

NEWS CLIPPING

Headline: **GAB Foundation celebrates 5 years of enriching communities**

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GAB Foundation celebrates 5 years of enriching communities



GAB Foundation's Board of Trustees and Foundation Management Committee leaving their handprints on the photo wall to signify GAB Foundation's 5th year of enriching communities. (From left) Charles Ireland, MD of GAB & Trustee of GAB Foundation, Ir. A. Sekarajasekaran, Consultant to the Foundation's W.A.T.E.R Project, Dato' Mahadev Shankar, Independent Trustee of GAB Foundation, Dato' Dr Gon Cheng Teik, Independent Trustee, Tan Sri Saw Huat Lye, Chairman GAB Foundation, Rita Sim, Independent Trustee, and Renuka Indrarajah, Director GAB Foundation

PETALING JAYA: GAB Foundation celebrated its 5th anniversary recently, having donated close to RM3 million and reached out to 16,000 Malaysians through its environment, education and community initiatives.

Key achievements include rehabilitating the 'Sungei Way' river through a transformative community engagement programme, helping more than 6,000 pupils improve their level of English proficiency, and carrying out more than 60 community projects nationwide.

Tan Sri Saw Huat Lye, Chairman of GAB Foundation, said "We are committed to make a difference - to engage and enrich our communities. We are delighted that we were able to touch thousands of people through our initiatives over the last five years. We would like to

thank our partners; NGOs, government agencies, and communities for giving us the privilege to work with them.

"Moving forward, we aim to engage with more Malaysians, educating them on the importance of river conservation. In addition, we will seek new partnerships and collaborations to reach more high needs schools to help enhance English proficiency in schools."

GAB Foundation was set up in 2007 to carry out Guinness Anchor Berhad's corporate social responsibility initiatives in three key areas - environment, education and community. The Foundation, through its W.A.T.E.R Project (Working Actively Through Education and Rehabilitation), had worked closely with NGO, Global Environment Centre, local community groups and



To complement the efforts to raise the level of English proficiency, GAB Foundation also sponsors reading corners in schools to help students nurture the reading habit by giving them access to English reading materials. To-date, the Foundation has set up 37 reading corners across Malaysia, including 19 in Sabah and Sarawak.

government agencies to improve the water quality of the 'Sungei Way' river. Today, the river which once had a Class IV-V water quality rating (extremely polluted) is now classified as Class III (suitable for living organisms).

In the area of education, the Foundation has initiated the English Programme to promote English proficiency amongst primary school students, especially those studying in vernacular schools. Apart from that, the Foundation has also donated reading corners to schools and

learning centres across Malaysia.

"We've recently launched an English Enrichment Training Programme aimed at equipping teachers with new skills to enrich their pupils' learning experiences and teach English more effectively. A total of 70 teachers from 40 schools were trained and these teachers are expected to reach out to more than 1,500 students by year-end," Saw added.

The Foundation also dedicates a full work day for its employees to participate in its annual 'Big

Day Out'. Started in 2010, the event provides staff and GAB business partners with the opportunity to be directly involved in enriching and empowering the lives of the community. To-date, over 60 community projects have been carried out across Malaysia. Activities include the planting of 200 mangrove tree seedlings in Sepang, conducting basic health screening for village folks in Hulu Selangor and the building of a physical therapy area for a school in Petaling Jaya for children with special needs.